

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office action mailed on October 8, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the above identified amendments have been provided to thoroughly address each of the objections and rejections provided by the examiner in that Office action. In addition, the following remarks are submitted to clarify and explain the importance of the above amendments and to support a finding by the examiner that the claims, as amended, are now in a form warranting allowance of this case. Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests reconsideration by the examiner in this case.

The examiner had indicated in the above-identified Office action that claims 21-25 warranted allowable status if rewritten in independent form and modified to the extent necessary to overcome a problem relating to lack of antecedent basis found in claim 22. Applicant has amended claim 21 to include the requirements of claims 17 and 20 from which claim 21 depends. Claim 21 has additionally been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 21 should now be in a form warranting allowable status.

Claim 22 depends from claim 21 and has been modified to replace the phrase "said last turbine" with the phrase "a last turbine" to remedy improper antecedent basis identified by the examiner. Accordingly, claim 22 should now be in a form warranting allowable status. Claim 23 depends from claim 22 and has been left unmodified. Claim 23 should also now be in a form warranting allowable status, due to the amendment made to claims 21 and 22, from which claim 23 depends.

Claim 24 has been amended to depend from amended claim 21. Claim 24 thus benefits from the amendments made to claim 21 and should thus now also be in a form warranting allowable status. Claim 25 depends from claim 24 and has been left unamended. Claim 25 should now be in a form warranting allowable status due to amendments made to claims 24 and 21, from which claim 25 depends.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-17, 26 and 27. This cancellation is provided in accordance with the examiner's requirements for placing this case in allowable form.

Applicant has amended claim 20 in a manner somewhat analogous to amendments made to claim 21 identified above. In particular, claim 20 has been amended to include the requirements of claim 17 and to be placed in independent form. Also, claim 20 has been amended to require that the at least one diluent heater be located downstream from said second turbine. This limitation added to amended claim 20 thus particularly specifies the position for the diluent heater, somewhat analogous to the requirements of amended claim 21, except with a slightly different position for the diluent heater. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 as amended is distinct from the prior art of record in this case, warranting allowable status.

Claims 18 and 19 have been amended to depend from amended claim 20. Thus, amended claims 18 and 19 benefit from the amendments made to claim 20 discussed in detail above, and should also be in a form warranting allowable status.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the examiner pass this case to issue. If, upon consideration, the examiner believes further issues remain outstanding or new ones have been generated, the undersigned requests that the examiner call the undersigned to set up a personal or telephone interview with the undersigned to resolve any such remaining issues.

Respectfully Submitted:



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Date